

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Security Committee

OS REGISTRY
FILE *Security 18*
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SECOM-D-580

23 JUL 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR:
Special Assistant to the DCI
for Compartmentation

FROM: Robert W. Gambino
Chairman

SUBJECT: Alternate APEX Proposal

1. In your paper suggesting an alternate proposal for implementation of APEX you suggest an organizational structure to manage the system which you would have run from the DCI Security Committee. You also take note of the fact that some adjustment should be made to redefine responsibilities for the operation of compartmentation systems. I fully endorse your view.

2. At present, the COMIREX is charged to develop "special security controls", and the SIGINT Committee is tasked to prepare recommendations on the "degree and type of security protection to be given COMINT, etc..." and the Security Committee is only charged to "review special security and compartmentation procedures" and to "develop and recommend to the DCI...technical guidance for the establishment, maintenance and improvement of coordinated compartmentation systems". Such continued delineations of authority would fail to allow the Security Committee to adequately carry out its responsibility to develop and manage the APEX system. I, therefore, feel it imperative to seize upon the current opportunity to clearly spell that

out by having the DCI direct rewrite of the COMIREX, SIGINT Committee and SECOM charters to establish such primacy as resting with the SECOM. The COMIREX and SIGINT Committees would ordinarily continue to be in control of what material would be compartmented, de-compartmented or sanitized except in the case of challenge when the Security Committee would have to serve as the DCI arbiter.

3. Insofar as the need for additional resources are concerned, we hope that you are factoring in the need for secretarial support when you discuss the suggested infusion of new personnel to implement APEX.

[Redacted Signature Box]

Robert W. Gambino

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